

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL SURVEY OF HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS

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| 1. STATE New York | 2. THEME(S). IF ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE, WRITE "ARCH" BEFORE THEME NO. XII, Political and Military Affairs, 1783-1830 |
| 3. NAME(S) OF SITE New York City Hall | 4. APPROX. ACREAGE - |
| 5. EXACT LOCATION (County, township, roads, etc. If difficult to find, sketch on Supplementary Sheet) City Hall Park, lower Manhattan Island, New York City, New York | |
| 6. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRESENT OWNER (Also administrator if different from owner) City of New York | |
| 7. IMPORTANCE AND DESCRIPTION (Describe briefly what makes site important and what remains are extant) | |

Since its completion in 1811, New York City Hall has been the heartbeat of the bustling seaport which became the capital of the Free World. The Hall has watched American armies passing in review, going to battle or coming home from the Nation's wars, from 1812 to Korea. For more than a century and a half it has greeted the great of this and other nations; Lafayette and Lindbergh, Garibaldi and Eisenhower; and it has welcomed to these shores the humble and unknown. Before it have passed generations of immigrants, trudging toward their new homes in the teeming city or in the cities, farms and plains which stretched westward to the Pacific. The Hall tells the colorful and significant story of civic administration in an American metropolis and preserves the deeds of good men and bad who shaped the American political tradition: De Witt Clinton, father of the Erie Canal; "Boss" Tweed, the evil genius of machine politics, and the able and flamboyant "Little Flower", Fiorello La Guardia, among scores of others no less memorable.

City Hall has been described as a living museum of New York History, blending architectural beauty and historical significance in a combination rare in American public buildings. In the Hall are the offices of the Mayor and the President of the City Council, and the meeting rooms of the City Council and Board of Estimate. Here, too, is the famous Room No. 9, reserved for use of the press. Leading figures of American history who have been associated directly or indirectly with New York City are honored by sculpture and paintings in the Governor's Room and throughout the Hall. The Governor's Room on the second floor, serves as a museum displaying, among other items, a mahogany writing table used by Washington in the first days of his presidency, and arm chairs used by members of the first United States Senate during its sessions in New York.

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| 8. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (Give best sources; give location of manuscripts and rare works) | Ernest Neufeld, ed., <u>The Renaissance of City Hall: The City of New York</u> (New York, 1956); <u>New York City Guide, American Guide Series</u> (New York, 1939); Isaac N. Phelps Stokes, <u>New York, Past and Present: Its History and Land Marks, 1524-1939</u> (New York Historical Society, New York, 1939); Cleveland Rodgers and Rebecca B. Rankin, <u>New York: The World's Capital City; Its Development and Contribution to Progress</u> (New York, 1948); Albert Ulmann, <u>A Landmark</u> |
| 9. REPORTS AND STUDIES (Mention best reports and studies, as, NPS study, HABS, etc.) | |

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| 10. PHOTOGRAPHS ATTACHED: YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> | 11. CONDITION Excellent | 12. PRESENT USE (Museum, form, etc.) Center of city government | 13. DATE OF VISIT April 8, 1959 |
| 14. NAME OF RECORDER (Signature) Charles E. Shedd, Jr. | 15. TITLE Historic Sites Historian | 16. DATE 10/28/59 | |

* DRY MOUNT ON AN 8 X 10 1/2 SHEET OF FAIRLY HEAVY PAPER. IDENTIFY BY VIEW AND NAME OF THE SITE, DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH, AND NAME OF PHOTOGRAPHER. GIVE LOCATION OF NEGATIVE. IF ATTACHED, ENCLOSE IN PROPER NEGATIVE ENVELOPES.

(IF ADDITIONAL SPACE IS NEEDED USE SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET, 10-317a, AND REFER TO ITEM NUMBER)

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SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET

This sheet is to be used for giving additional information or comments, for more space for any item on the regular form, and for recording pertinent data from future studies, visitations, etc. Be brief, but use as many Supplement Sheets as necessary. When items are continued they should be listed, if possible, in numerical order of the items. All information given should be headed by the item number, its name, and the word (cont'd), as, 6. Description and Importance (cont'd) . . .

STATE

New York

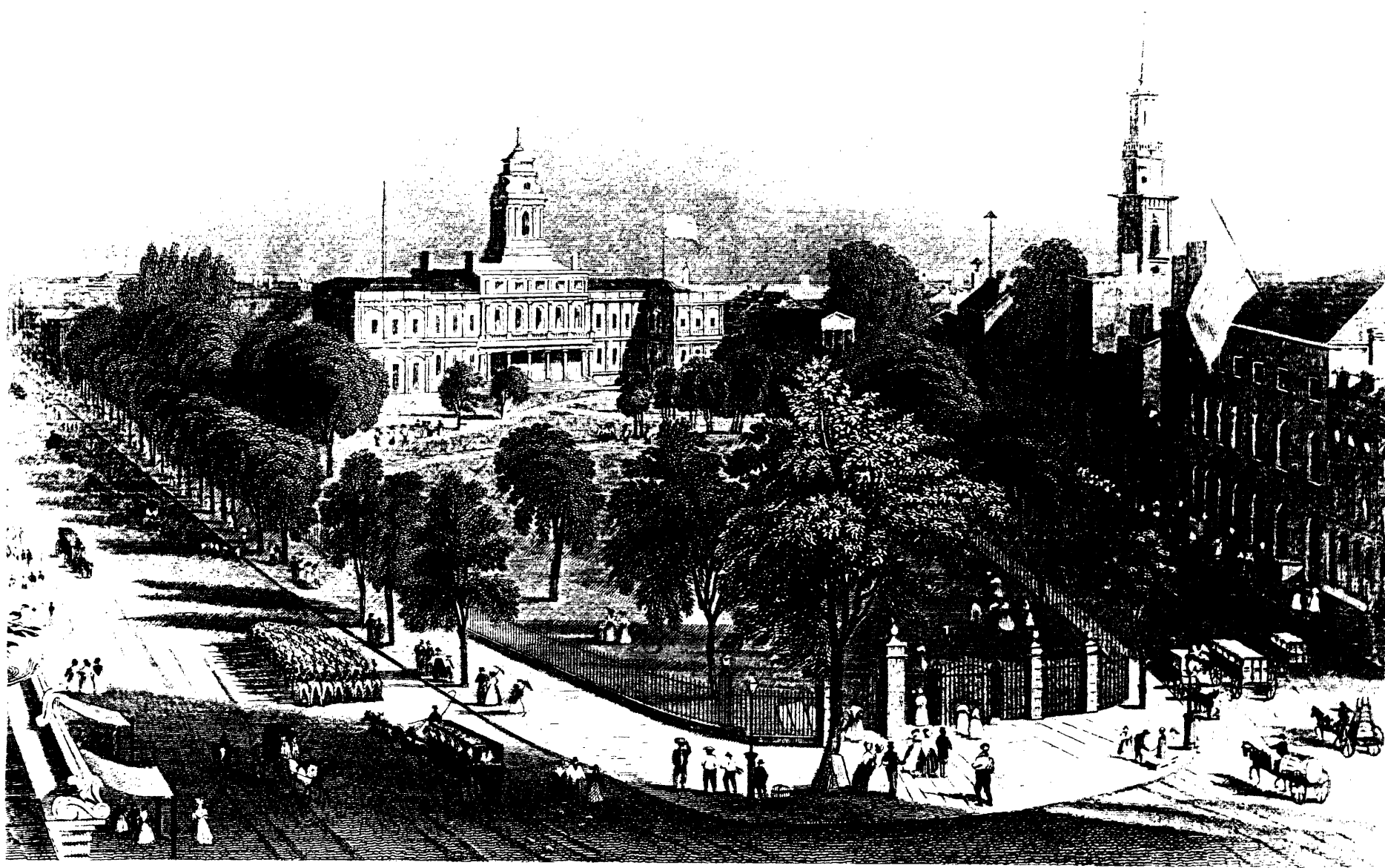
NAME(S) OF SITE

New York City Hall

3. Bibliographical References (cont'd.)

History of New York, Including A Guide to Commemorative Sites and Monuments (New York, 1939).





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A view of City Hall, New York City from an early nineteenth century engraving.